CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A heterogenite powder having a surface area at of least about 90 m^2/g.

2. The heterogenite powder of claim 1 wherein the surface area is from about 90 m^2/g to about 110 m^2/g.

3. A method for making a submicron particle size cobalt powder comprising reducing a heterogenite powder having a surface area at least about 90 m^2/g.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the heterogenite powder has a surface area from about 90 m^2/g to about 110 m^2/g.

5. The method of claim 3 wherein reducing the heterogenite powder comprises heating the heterogenite powder in a hydrogen-containing atmosphere at a temperature from about 325°C to about 425°C for about 0.5 hours to about 2.0 hours.